

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)
19. (Previously presented) A bifurcated stent comprising:
 - a proximal tubular section;
 - a first distal tubular section, said first distal tubular section connected to said proximal section by connector members; and
 - a second distal tubular section, said first and second distal tubular sections welded together at their proximal ends;
 - wherein the weld is a spot weld formed between a dowel and a hole.
20. (Previously presented) A bifurcated stent comprising:
 - a proximal tubular section;

a first distal tubular section, said first distal tubular section connected to said proximal section by connector members; and

a second distal tubular section, said first and second distal tubular sections welded together at their proximal ends;

wherein the weld is a spot weld formed between a dowel and a hole; and

wherein the shape of the connection is different than the strut shape of the proximal and distal sections.

21. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 20 wherein the connector members are omega-shaped.

22. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 19 wherein said distal end and proximal sections are expandable to different diameters.

23. (Currently Amended) A stent comprising a first cylindrical form and a second cylindrical form connected thereto;

said second cylindrical form having a wall portion placed alongside a wall portion of the first cylindrical form and forming a series of strut shaped connectors thereat so that the ~~stent~~ stent forms a "Y"-shaped opening through the interior portion of the stent without any overlap of said wall portion; and

said stent having a welded connection at the ~~connection~~ connectors between said first and second cylindrical forms;

wherein said welded connection is accomplished around the entire circumference of said second cylindrical form.

24. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 23 wherein said second cylindrical form has a smaller interior diameter than said first cylindrical form.

25. (Canceled) A stent comprising a first cylindrical form and a second cylindrical form connected thereto;

said second cylindrical form placed alongside a wall portion of the first cylindrical form so that the stent forms a "Y"-shaped opening through the interior portion of the stent without overlap; said stent having a welded connection at the connection between said first and second cylindrical forms; and

wherein said welded connection is accomplished around the entire circumference of said second cylindrical form.

26. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim ~~25~~ 23 wherein said stent is sized to fit within a bifurcated lumen.

27. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim ~~25~~ 23 wherein said stent is balloon expandable.

28. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim ~~25~~ 23 wherein said ~~stent has a~~ first cylindrical form ~~with~~ contains an opening formed in the wall of said cylindrical form, and said opening generally corresponding to the circumference of said second cylindrical form.

29. (Previously presented) A bifurcated stent comprising:

a proximal tubular section;

a first distal tubular section, said first distal tubular section connected to said proximal section by connector members; and

a second distal tubular section, said first and second distal tubular sections attached together at their proximal ends by a ball and socket joint.

30. (Previously presented) A bifurcated stent comprising:

a proximal tubular section having struts;

a first distal tubular section having struts, said first distal tubular section connected to said proximal section by connector members;

Serial No. 09 874,335
JJI-S2 RCE
Response to Non-Compliant
Amdt. Dated 2/7/05

a second distal tubular section having struts, each of said first and second distal tubular sections having proximal and distal ends, and said first and second distal tubular sections connected at their proximal ends; and

wherein the shape of the connector members is different than the strut shape of the proximal and distal sections; and

wherein said distal and proximal sections are expandable to different diameters.

Serial No. 09/874,335
JJI-52 RCE
Response to Non-Compliant
Amdt. Dated 2/7/05

Accordingly, it is earnestly solicited that claims 23, 24 and 26-28 are in condition for allowance. A Notice of their Allowability, as well as the Allowability of claims 19-22 and 30 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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